



U. S. S. CHARLES F. ADAMS (DDG-2)
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Admiral Stansfield Turner, USN
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:


Many congratulations on your new appointment; I wonder if there will be any similarities between running the Agency and running the War College: I expect there will be a few.

I am presently XO in ADAMS, and I'm actually enjoying it, which is not something I publicize too much, as XO tours are supposed to be miserable things. We are about to deploy for seven months into the Med, which will be a new experience for me. As a matter of fact, the Atlantic fleet is a whole new experience for me; I'd have to say that the Pacific Fleet does things a little better. I asked for a LANTFLT ship just to see what the Med was all about and to broaden my horizons a bit.

I read your article in Foreign Affairs, and I think it's the first legitimate comparison between the two navies I've ever seen. The only question I had after reading it was this: does the comparison remain valid if one introduces the use of tactical nuclear weapons into surface warfare? I have this feeling that the one place where the superpowers could get away with using nuclear warfare is at sea, where the damage to the homeland is much less visible. Much as I love to steam around in destroyers, I have this feeling inside that the surface Navy is one big anachronism in the context of naval nuclear warfare. It strikes me that the other side is better equipped to warfight in a nuclear environment than we are, again, at sea, as opposed to strategic nuclear exchanges.

My book on fleet operations for the sea-going ops boss is about finished, and the Institute has given me a contract after the Board of Control approved the proposal. It will be no earth shaker, but I'm delighted to break the publication ice.

I hope to go from here to command, and then back to Washington. If you can put up with D.C. that long, I'll come by and call. My best wishes for your success in a very difficult assignment.

Respectfully,

Peter Deutermaun